

### REMARKS

Claim 47 has been amended; claims 46 and 50-53 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Claims 36-45 and 47-49 are currently pending.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 36-45 have been allowed. Claims 47-49 were objected to because they were dependent on a rejected claim. Claim 47 has been amended to be in independent form; Applicants believe this amendment overcomes the objection.

It is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.


### CONCLUSION

This Amendment After Final Action is believed to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Raymond R. Mandra  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 34,382

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY\_MAIN 474390v1